Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, below the title, add the following:

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CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION: This Application is a continuation-in-part application of, and claims priority under 35 U.S. C.§119 (e), to U.S. provisional application serial no. 60/179,910, filed February 3, 2000, and now abandoned"

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 10, 21, 26, 40, 47, and 50 without prejudice to their resubmission.

Please amend claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 11-20, 22, 27-36, 41-46, 48, 49, and 52-59 as follows. A version of these amendments entitled "Version of Amended Claims Marked to Show Changes" is attached.

a2

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the geometric mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine is produced at a desloratadine geometric mean T_{max} in the range of about 1.60 to about 2.50 hours.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine is produced at a desloratadine arithmetic mean T_{max} in the range of about 2.54 to about 3.96 hours.

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5. (Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein the geometric mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine is produced at a 3-OH-desloratadine geometric mean T_{max} in the range of about 4.00 to about 6.25 hours.

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6. (Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein the arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine is produced at a 3-OH-desloratadine arithmetic mean T_{max} in the range of about 3.80 to about 5.95 hours.

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11. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein a plot of the plasma concentration of desloratadine over time yields a geometric mean AUC(0-24hr) for desloratadine in the range of about 39.5 ng.hr/mL to about 61.8 ng.hr/mL.

12. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein a plot of the plasma concentration of desloratadine over time yields an arithmetic mean AUC(0-24hr) for desloratadine in the range of about 45.5 ng.hr/mL to about 71.1 ng.hr/mL.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein a plot of the plasma concentration of 3-OH-desloratadine over time yields a geometric mean AUC(0-24hr) for 3-OH-desloratadine in the range of about 24.3 ng.hr/mL to about 38.0 ng.hr/mL.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein a plot of the plasma concentration of 3-OH-desloratadine over time yields an arithmetic mean AUC(0-24hr) for 3-OH-desloratadine in the range of about 25.8 ng.hr/mL to about 40.4 ng.hr/mL.

15. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the condition in need of treating and/or preventing is seasonal allergic rhinitis, perennial allergic rhinitis, atopic dermatitis, urticaria or allergic asthma.

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17. (Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the geometric mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine is

produced at a desloratadine geometric mean T_{max} in the range of about 1.60 to about 2.50 hours.

18. (Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine is produced at a desloratadine arithmetic mean T_{max} in the range of about 2.54 to about 3.96 hours.

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19. (Amended) A method of treating and/or preventing seasonal or perennial allergic rhinitis in a human of 12 years and older which comprises administering an effective amount of desloratadine for a time sufficient to produce a geometric mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine in the range of about 1.50 ng/mL to about 2.34 ng/mL, or an arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine in the range of about 1.60 ng/mL to about 2.50 ng/mL.

20. (Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the geometric mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine is produced at a 3-OH-desloratadine geometric mean T_{max} in the range of about 4.00 to about 6.25 hours.

22. (Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the arithmetic

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mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine is produced at a 3-OH-desloratadine arithmetic mean T_{max} in the range of about 3.80 to about 5.95 hours.

27. (Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein a plot of the

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plasma concentration of desloratadine over time yields a geometric mean AUC(0-24hr) for desloratadine in the range of about 39.5 ng.hr/mL to about 61.8 ng.hr/mL.

28. (Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein a plot of the plasma concentration of desloratadine over time yields an arithmetic mean AUC(0-24hr) for desloratadine in the range of about 45.5 ng.hr/mL to about 71.1 ng.hr/mL.

29. (Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein a plot of the plasma concentration of 3-OH-desloratadine over time yields a geometric mean AUC(0-24hr) for 3-OH-desloratadine in the range of about 24.3 ng.hr/mL to about 38.0 ng.hr/mL.

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30. (Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein a plot of the plasma concentration of 3-OH-desloratadine over time yields an arithmetic mean AUC(0-24hr) for 3-OH-desloratadine in the range of about 25.8 ng.hr/mL to about 40.4 ng.hr/mL.

31. (Amended) A method of treating and/or preventing atopic dermatitis or urticaria in a human of 12 years and older in need of such treating and/or preventing which comprises administering an effective amount of desloratadine for a time sufficient to produce a geometric mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine in the range of about 2.90 ng/mL to about 4.54 ng/mL, or an arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine in the range of about 3.2 ng/mL to about 5.0 ng/mL.

32. (Amended) The method of claim 31 wherein the geometric mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine is produced at a desloratadine geometric mean T_{max} in the range of about 1.60 to about 2.50 hours.

33. (Amended) The method of claim 31 wherein the arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine is produced at a desloratadine arithmetic mean T_{max} in the range of about 2.54 to about 3.96 hours.

34. (Amended) A method of treating and/or preventing atopic dermatitis or urticaria in a human of 12 years and older in need of such treating and/or preventing which comprises administering an effective amount of desloratadine for a time sufficient to produce a geometric mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine in the range of about 1.50 ng/mL to about 2.34 ng/mL, or an arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine in the range of about 1.6 ng/mL to about 2.50 ng/mL.

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35. (Amended) The method of claim 34 wherein the geometric mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine is produced at a 3-OH-desloratadine geometric mean T_{max} in the range of about 4.00 to about 6.25 hours.

36. (Amended) The method of claim 34 wherein the arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine is produced at a 3-OH-desloratadine arithmetic mean T_{max} in the range of about 3.80 to about 5.95 hours.

41. (Amended) The method of claim 31 wherein a plot of the plasma concentration of desloratadine over time yields a geometric mean AUC(0-24hr) for desloratadine in the range of about 39.5 ng.hr/mL to about 61.8 ng.hr/mL.

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42. (Amended) The method of claim 31 wherein a plot of the plasma concentration of desloratadine over time yields an arithmetic mean AUC(0-24hr) for desloratadine in the range of about 45.5 ng.hr/mL to about 71.1 ng.hr/mL.

43. (Amended) The method of claim 34 wherein a plot of the plasma concentration of 3-OH-desloratadine over time yields a geometric mean AUC(0-24hr) for 3-OH-desloratadine in the range of about 24.3 ng.hr/mL to about 38.0 ng.hr/mL.

44. (Amended) The method of claim 34 wherein a plot of the plasma concentration of 3-OH-desloratadine over time yields an arithmetic mean AUC(0-24hr) for 3-OH-desloratadine in the range of about 25.8 ng.hr/mL to about 40.4 ng.hr/mL.

45. (Amended) A method of treating and/or preventing the nasal and non-nasal symptoms of seasonal and perennial allergic rhinitis and for treating chronic idiopathic urticaria in a human of 12 years and older in need of such treating and /or preventing which comprises administering to said human about 5.0 mg of desloratadine once a day for about 10 days to produce at a desloratadine arithmetic mean time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) of about 3 hours post dose, an arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine of about 4 ng/mL, and an arithmetic mean area under the concentration-time (0-24hr) curve of about 56.9 ng.hr/mL of desloratadine.

46. (Amended) The method of claim 45 wherein the administration of desloratadine produces an arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine, at an arithmetic

mean time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine of about 4.8 hours, of about 2 ng/mL and an arithmetic mean area under the concentration-time (0-24hr) curve of 3-OH-desloratadine of about 32.3 ng.hr/mL.

48. (Amended) A method of treating and/or preventing the nasal and non-nasal symptoms of seasonal and perennial allergic rhinitis and/or of treating chronic idiopathic urticaria in a human of 12 years and older in need of such treating and /or preventing which comprises administering an effective amount of desloratadine for a time sufficient to produce a steady state geometric mean maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine in the range of about 2.90 ng/mL to about 4.54 ng/mL at a geometric mean time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) of desloratadine in the range of about 1.60 to about 2.50 hours post dose, or a steady state arithmetic mean maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine in the range of about 3.2 ng/mL to about 5.0 ng/mL at an arithmetic mean time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) of desloratadine in the range of about 2.54 to about 3.96 hours post dose.

49. (Amended) The method of claim 48 wherein the administration of desloratadine produces an arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine, at an arithmetic mean time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine in the range of about 3.80 hours to 5.95 hours, in the range of about 1.60 ng/mL to about 2.50 ng/mL and an arithmetic mean area under the concentration-time (0-24hr) curve of 3-OH-desloratadine in the range of about 25.8 ng.hr/mL to about 40.4 ng.hr/mL.

52. (Amended) A method of treating and/or preventing the nasal and non-nasal symptoms of seasonal and perennial allergic rhinitis and/or

of treating chronic idiopathic urticaria in a human of 12 years and older in need of such treating and/or preventing which comprises administering to said human about 5.0 mg of desloratadine once a day for about 10 days to produce an arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine of about 4 ng/mL at an arithmetic mean time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) of desloratadine of about 3 hours post dose.

53. (Amended) The method of claim 52 wherein the administration of desloratadine produces an arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine, at an arithmetic mean time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine of about 4.8 hours, of about 2.0 ng/mL and an arithmetic mean area under the concentration-time (0-24hr) curve of 3-OH-desloratadine of about 32.3 ng.hr/mL.

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54. (Amended) A method of treating and/or preventing the nasal and non-nasal symptoms of seasonal and perennial allergic rhinitis and/or of treating chronic idiopathic urticaria in a human of 12 years and older in need of such treating and /or preventing which comprises administering to said human about 5.0 mg of desloratadine once a day for about 10 days to produce at a desloratadine arithmetic mean time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) of about 3 hours post dose, an arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine of about 4 ng/mL, and an arithmetic mean area under the concentration-time (0-24hr) curve of about 56.9 ng.hr/mL of desloratadine.

55. (Amended) The method of claim 54 wherein the administration of desloratadine produces an arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine, at arithmetic mean

time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine of about 4.8 hours, of about 2.0 ng/mL and an arithmetic mean area under the concentration-time (0-24hr) curve of 3-OH-desloratadine of about 32.3 ng.hr/mL.

56. (Amended) A method of treating chronic idiopathic urticaria in a human of 12 years and older in need of such treating and /or preventing which comprises administering to said human about 5.0 mg of desloratadine once a day for about 10 days to produce at a desloratadine arithmetic mean time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) of about 3 hours post dose, an arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine of about 4 ng/mL, and an arithmetic mean area under the concentration-time (0-24hr) curve of about 56.9 ng.hr/mL of desloratadine.

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57. (Amended) The method of claim 56 wherein the administration of desloratadine produces an arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine, at arithmetic mean time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine of about 4.80 hours, of about 2.0 ng/mL and an arithmetic mean area under the concentration-time (0-24hr) curve of 3-OH-desloratadine of about 32.3 ng.hr/mL.

58. (Amended) A method of treating and/or preventing the nasal and non-nasal symptoms of seasonal and perennial allergic rhinitis in a human of 12 years and older in need of such treating and /or preventing which comprises administering to said human about 5.0 mg of desloratadine once a day for about 10 days to produce at a desloratadine arithmetic mean time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) of about 3 hours post dose, an arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of desloratadine of

about 4 ng/mL, and an arithmetic mean area under the concentration-time (0-24hr) curve of about 56.9 ng.hr/mL of desloratadine.

59. (Amended) The method of claim 58 wherein the administration of desloratadine produces an arithmetic mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine, at arithmetic mean time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine of about 4.80 hours, of about 2.0 ng/mL and an arithmetic mean area under the concentration-time (0-24hr) curve of 3-OH-desloratadine of about 32.3 ng.hr/mL.

Please add new claims 60-64 as follows:

60. The method of claim 48 wherein the administration of desloratadine produces a geometric mean steady state maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of 3-OH-desloratadine, at a 3-OH-desloratadine geometric mean time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) in the range of about 4.00 hours to about 6.25 hours, in the range about 1.50 ng/mL to about 2.34 ng/mL and a geometric mean area under the concentration-time (0-24hr) curve of 3-OH-desloratadine is in the range of about 24.3 ng.hr/mL to about 38.0 ng.hr/mL.

61. A method of treating and/or preventing allergic and inflammatory conditions of the skin or airway passages in a human of 12 years and older in need of such treating and/or preventing which comprises administering desloratadine for about 7 days to about 10 days to produce, prior to the seventh day after commencement of desloratadine administering, an arithmetic mean steady state minimum plasma concentration (C_{min}) of desloratadine of about 1.26 ng/mL and, prior to the tenth day after commencement of desloratadine administering, an arithmetic mean steady state minimum plasma concentration (C_{min}) of desloratadine of about 1.38 ng/mL.

62. The method of claim 61 wherein an arithmetic mean steady state minimum plasma concentration (C_{min}) of 3-OH-desloratadine of about 0.792 ng/mL is produced prior to administering a dose on the seventh day after commencement of desloratadine administering, and an arithmetic mean steady state minimum plasma concentration (C_{min}) of 3-OH-desloratadine of about 0.845 ng/mL is produced prior to administering a dose on the tenth day after commencement of desloratadine administering.

63. A method of treating and/or preventing the nasal and non-nasal symptoms of seasonal and perennial allergic rhinitis and for treating chronic idiopathic urticaria in a human of 12 years and older in need of such treating and/or preventing which comprises administering to said human about 5.0 mg of desloratadine once a day for about 7 days to about 10 days to produce, prior to the seventh day after commencement of desloratadine administering,, an arithmetic mean steady state minimum plasma concentration (C_{min}) of desloratadine of about 1.26 ng/mL and, prior to the tenth day after commencement of desloratadine administering , an arithmetic mean steady state minimum plasma concentration (C_{min}) of desloratadine of about 1.38 ng/mL.

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64. The method of claim 63 wherein an arithmetic mean steady state minimum plasma concentration (C_{min}) of 3-OH-desloratadine of about 0.792 ng/mL is produced prior to administering a dose on the seventh day after commencement of desloratadine administering, and an arithmetic mean steady state minimum plasma concentration (C_{min}) of 3-OH-desloratadine of about 0.845 ng/mL is produced prior to administering a dose on the tenth day after commencement of desloratadine administering.